

GADGETS • GAMES • INTERVIEWS • MOVIES • MUSIC • FASHION • MORE!

RATED

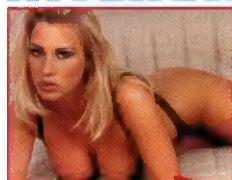
LOVE IT - HATE IT - RATE IT!

FREE SAMPLE!

GET AWAY FROM HER YOU BITCH!

TOP 10 ACTION BABES - REVEALED!

BABE **EXCLUSIVE!**
INTERVIEW!



RESULT INSIDE!

XBOX V GAMECUBE



MARK WAHLBERG **EXCLUSIVE!**

FEATURING



DVD REVIEWS



MUSIC REVIEWS



GADGETS



LATEST NEWS AND GOSSIP!



CLOTHES

FREE WITH

PS2
100 INTERVIEWS INSIDE

DVDS • JOKES • COMPETITIONS • DVD EASTER EGGS • GAME REVIEWS!

RATED

CONTENTS

introducing
RATED

Welcome to your free 24 page RATED, a mini version of a whole lotta magazine coming out later in 2002. We have lots for you to browse through, whether you're interested in babes, films, clothes or the latest music, this is the magazine for you!

Enjoy!

Ben Keen

Ben Keen
Editor
Ben.keen@thincimedia.co.uk



FEATURES

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The X-Box and Game cube go head to head. Two big console launches...but there can be only one.

10 TOP 10 ACTION BABES

Ever wondered what would happen if you slung Buffy, Ripley, Xena and Captain Jane Way in a mud wrestle? Well we did...

11 TOP 10 WAR FILMS

This time it's war. Strap on your grenade launcher, pull up the galling gun and get ready for the biggest bad ass war movie mash ever!

REGULARS

3 HOUND

Hot on the heels and right up the leg of the latest stories. Our news hound has all the latest celebrity gossip, showbiz, film, music, sports, wrestling and sci-fi news

6 STUFF AND NONSENSE

We look at all the latest gadgets, mobile phones, office toys, games, comics, books, watches, DVD players, TV technology, general hardware and more.

17 INTERVIEW - MARK WAHLBERG

Mark Wahlberg goes ape on us about being a monkey basher and how he didn't really agree with Mr. Heston's guns on set policy.

4 INTERVIEW - PLAYMATE

Dutch temptress and Playboy favourite Rachel Ter Horst shows us her credentials and explains why she just loves to get naked! Exclusive pictures, explicit answers and more!

REVIEWS

20 DVD REVIEWS

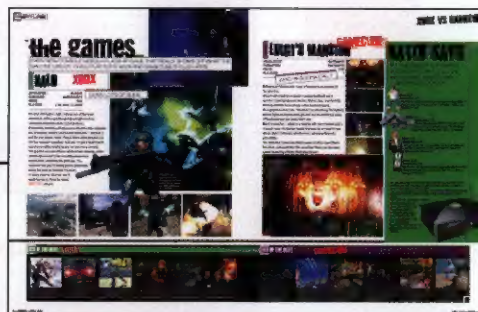
As per usual we pack in all the latest region 2 DVD releases. With over 40 reviews of the month's DVD films, in a bullsh*t free zone.

22 THREADS 'N' TUNES

All the very best of the latest clothing, watches, music albums and singles. We review and rate all the latest kit and tunes for your pleasure.

23 JOKES

For your pleasure, we select the finest cuts of the funniest jokes, for you to tell wrong in the pub or use on the barmaid. Enjoy!



DON'T YOU DARE MISS -
RACHEL TER HORST!!!!!!

What we say: 'The Sexiest Girl Of The Century' - that's how the Dutch describe their favourite home grown playmate Rachel Ter Horst. We caught up with the Playboy cover girl to talk about her life as a playmate.

Check out the rest of Rachel on page 5

Disagree - well, it's your magazine! - tell us what you think...
ben.keen@thincimedia.co.uk



TOP 5 RATED GEAR OF THE MONTH

#1 AMERICAN PIE 2



What we say: 'From the moment Jim's dad wished he'd knocked before he burst into his son's dorm room, to the willy lubricant/superglue mix-up, it's as raucous as ever, unmissable!' Check out the latest DVDs: Turn to page 18 for 40+ DVD reviews and a review of American Pie 2!

#2 POGO MOBILE TERMINAL



What we say: 'It's a mobile phone, a web browser, an MP3 player and a notebook. This incredible gadget is made in good old Blighty meaning you can buy it before anyone else!' Check out all the latest hardware, gadgets, office toys, bits for the ladies, Stuff and Nonsense from page 6

#3 JAY Z - GREATEST HITS



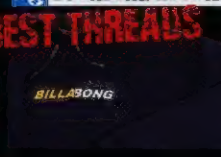
What we say: 'Features all 7 of his first top 40 hits including Ain't No Nigga, Hard Knock Life and the infectious Can I Get A. Unmissable mix for fans of the 6 million record selling rap artist. Chapter one of two from BMG.' Check out all the latest tunes - on page 22

#4 RUBBER BAND GUN



What we say: 'This wooden weapon, styled after the Colt 45 pistol, can rapid-fire 12 rubber bands and comes with a spare gun for your opponent - plus a bag of 'ammo'.' Check out all the latest toys for the office and for wounding friends in Stuff and Nonsense - from page 6

#5 BILLABONG HOODIE



What we say: 'Billabong's new hoodie is a pleasure to wear, look at and adore. Obviously quality design comes as standard. Ideal for after-surf warming up or just casual use.' Check it out the latest threads: Turn to page 22 for the full review and make up your own mind.



RATED'S RESIDENT POOCH HAS A NOSE FOR NEWS...

ZOMBIE NATION

RESIDENT EVIL MOVIE IN 'QUITE GOOD' SHOCKER!?

Tomb Raider, Final Fantasy, Street Fighter – all great games but God-awful movies. Well, history could be about to change. The long-awaited Resident Evil film hits UK cinemas next month and, according to our sources, it's actually pretty good. Even though the movie is a prequel to the top-selling series, the plot is made up of key moments from the Resi-evil game storyline. After an accident at dodgy chemical company Umbrella, humble office staff are turned into flesh-eating grumblers. So a crack team of commandos (including the tasty Milla Jovovich) are sent in to clean up. Game fans will recognise locations like the mansion that hides a secret entrance to Umbrella's lab, and a shootout aboard a speeding underground train.

Director Paul (Mortal Kombat) Anderson has kept CGI to a minimum – instead opting for clever make-up and moody lighting. But that doesn't mean we'll be short-changed on shocks. Expect to see gory zombies, killer hounds and the Licker – the monster with the decapitating tongue! And with Slipknot and Marilyn Manson providing soundtrack tunes, it looks set to be a rollicking ride. www.resident-evil-the-movie.com



SHOCKER!

Shocking tabloid news we've been reading this month

BOND 20 - KNEE BASH

Pierce Brosnan injured his knee while shooting a stunt involving a hovercraft. After a two week break from shooting, the Bond star returned to the set ready for action. A spokeswoman for the film's producers told press that "filming is going well overall".



YOKO'S BILLED BOARD

Yoko Ono has hired a central London billboard to spread John Lennon's message of world peace. She is believed to have paid around £150,000 to hire the spot at Piccadilly Circus. Her poster, surrounded by the flashing neon signs of multi-national firms, reads "Imagine all the people living life in peace" from Lennon's song. Imagine. Yoko has also placed similar messages in New York and Tokyo.

MOORE BACKS EWAN FOR BOND

Roger Moore says Ewan McGregor would make a good James Bond. The former 007 star said McGregor had "the right characteristics" for the role. He described him in an interview with American magazine TV Guide as "a fine actor" and "good looking." Moore is to play a flamboyant gay man in his next film *Heat*, which will be released this summer.

LOLO HUSBAND CHARGED

The husband of famed French porn star Lolo Ferrari has been charged with her murder. Lolo, famed for her 54G breasts, died two years ago. At the time it was thought to have been caused by a drugs overdose. But new tests carried out after pressure from her family have revealed she was smothered. Vigne, who has always maintained he found Lolo dead in bed, has been remanded to Grasse prison.



BRITNEY SCANNED FOR GAME

Britney Spears underwent hours of having her body scanned for a new video game. The singer is said to be happy with her three-dimensional computer-generated likeness. Britney's *Dance Beat* is expected to be released on the PlayStation2, Game Boy Advance, PC and Mac in May.

GAME ON!

THE COOLEST COLLECTIBLES

We're only weeks away from Star Wars Episode 2: Attack of the (snigger) Clones, and the merchandising barrage has begun. But forget cuddly Yodas, Lego is where it's at. The Danish block-heads have come up with a range of Episode 2-themed vehicles including Boba Fett's cool craft Slave 1 and Obi Wan's Jedi Starfighter. All the toys (sorry, collectibles) will be in shops in time for the film's debut on May 16. www.lego.com/starwars Plus, Rated has been given an exclusive sneak peek at what promises to be this summer's hottest game. HeroClix looks like a Games Workshop-style dice-rolling affair but it's a collectibles miniature game with a difference – playability. Each Marvel or DC Comics-themed figure comes ready hand-painted and mounted on a spinning disc that keeps track of their stats. A speedy playing style means they're perfect for a break-time blast. Characters like Spiderman, the Hulk, and X-Men will be in your local comics emporium by May; with Batman, The Invisibles and The Watchmen following soon. Prices range from about £6 to £20. www.wizkidsgames.com



RETURN OF THE KING

MAY DAY MADNESS

Skaters and BMX fans rejoice: the best of British talent will be under one roof again. But it does mean going back to Birmingham. King of Street 2001, is the "bigger and better" version of last year's hit showcase of UK skateboard and BMX prowess. Again held at the National Indoor Arena, Sunday May 5 is BMX day, with Monday May 6 reserved for the skaters. Home-grown pros from both camps will be competing for the £15,000 prize purse, plus there'll be public ramps, shops and DJs pumping the tunes. Pre-registered tickets for each day are £9 plus booking fee (phone 0870 9094144). Price on the door is £12. www.board-x.com



DVD BORE

"IF IT'S ON A DISC, I'LL BUY IT!"

Hi readers! I'm just playing around with my new Box Set Special Edition. I'm not sure what the movie's called but there are 17 discs with some great extras – especially the commentary by the film's catering staff. Great! I'm now saving up for the long-awaited Region 2 release of anime classic Akira (15, £19.99, out now). It comes in a two-disc set with loads of special features, like a 'make your own trailer' option and more making-ofs than you can wave a disc-cleaning cloth at. Vamp fans are in for a treat soon, too. Season 4 of Buffy is out on May 13 (15, £79.99) and Angel Season 2 hits the shops on April 15 (15, £79.99). Both contain all uncut episodes from their respective seasons, plus documentaries, trailers, scripts and outtakes. And one of my favourite ever movies – The Usual Suspects – gets the ultimate DVD treatment on April 29. Documentaries, deleted scenes and easter eggs are just part of the package. Right – I'm off to have a nice cup of tea. And watch some leaser trailers.



ALL SYSTEMS GO!

XBOX AND GAMECUBE LAUNCH

On March 14, British gamers finally got their grubby mitts on Xbox – Microsoft's powerful PlayStation beater. But on May 3rd it's Nintendo's chance to steal some thunder back from Bill Gates, with GameCube. It's a confusing and potentially expensive time for gamers, so that's why we've put together a helpful (and unbiased) guide to each machine, starting on page 12. The decision isn't helped by Sony either, who've released a PS2 pack bundled with the superb Metal Gear Solid 2 game for a measly £230. But you could always give all three machines a miss and grab a Gameboy Advance. Nintendo have now slashed the price to a wallet-pleasing £60. Pity the games are still 30-nicker though...



**RATED
MEETS**

rachel sex domino!



So Rachel, what's your idea of the ideal man?

He has to be toned, well toned. I like a man who looks after himself, works out and has a lovely six pack. A well-toned six-pack will have me out of my knickers in no time.

Wow!...er, so I'll be off to the gym later as usual.

(Giggles), yeah, you have to be fit to be with me, sorry, but that's my preference. I know it's superficial, but despite a great personality everyone sees your outside first and that must be attractive if you want me to be attracted to you.

Ur, ahem, yeah of course. So what about personality and all that gubbins?

A great personality is a bonus, but it isn't anything without the whole package if you know what I mean. He must have a sense of humour, enjoy his work and his life. He must be happy and have an active life, I'm so busy that I don't have time for long term relationships at the moment. I don't like hang-ons?



'THE SEXIEST GIRL OF THE CENTURY' - THAT'S HOW THE DUTCH DESCRIBE THEIR FAVOURITE HOME GROWN PLAYMATE RACHEL TER HORST. WE CAUGHT UP WITH THE PLAYBOY COVER GIRL TO TALK ABOUT HER LIFE AS A PLAYMATE AND HER NEW PLAYBOY DVD.



RACHEL TER HORST CAN BE SEEN IN HER NEW PLAYBOY: CENTREFOLD SPECIAL. OUT TO BUY ON VIDEO AND DVD NOW FROM MEDUSA HOME VIDEO.



Hang ons?

You know? Hang-ons. Men who get obsessed. If you get obsessed with me, then your gonna get jealous of my life style. I work hard, I pose nude for most of the day and I travel everywhere. It's difficult to juggle a boyfriend with that.

What's a normal day for Rachel Ter Horst?

I get up very early normally, have a nice long breakfast and usually I'm in work before 9 a.m. Dependent on the clothing and make-up requirements, it takes between an hour or two to get ready for the first day's shoot. The morning poses are long and can be tiring. Sometimes we hold a pose for hours.

What's the best bit about your job?

The travelling. I love on location shoots and travelling around the globe to places I've never heard of and places I've only ever dreamed of going. It's really a dream come true, a job that pays by the bucket load and puts you up in the very best accommodation all over the world. It's brilliant!

When did you really start modelling?

I came over to the UK from Holland about seven years ago now. I met up with a great agency and did a lot of work here. Then Dutch Playboy spotted me and asked me to do Playboy. I did and became a regular, then I did a lot of stuff with my cousin. We posed together a lot and were known in the UK and around the world as the Dutch girls.

How did you feel the first time you posed naked?

Petrified. I was so nervous because I initially thought that I'd be a clothes model for catalogues etc. But I realised I had the look and body that made men drool and I could make a lot more money in adult entertainment. I did my first nude shoot here in the UK. After that I was hooked and began to pose nude whenever possible.

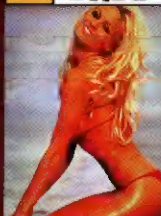
What's next for you career wise?

I'm not particularly interested in acting or presenting, but if the right opportunity comes along, I'll do it. I love music, I love singing. I'm trying that, but I'm happy with this and will pose as long as I can. It can't last forever...unfortunately.

TOP 5 RATED PLAYBOYS DVDS EVER

WE PICK FIVE OF THE BEST PLAYBOY VIDEOS OUT NOW TO BUY ON DVD/VIDEO

#1 BABES OF BAYWATCH



Full of all your favourites from the rosey TV show. Nothing to scare for the faint of heart here. Plenty of quality babes from the beach that you'd drown to get your lips around.

SCORES: 7/10
BABES: 10/10
BOOTY: 6/10
BEST BIT:

Pam talking about the artistic merit of Baywatch. **WATCH OUT FOR:** The girls that we're sure were never in Baywatch.



#2 ANNA NICOLE SMITH



Like Jordan, if you saw Anna in broad daylight she'd turn you white. But when it comes to caking on the make up and getting them out for the cameras, Anna, like Jordan, is on top form.

SCORES: 8/10
BABES: 9/10
BOOTY: 10/10
BEST BIT:

When she talks openly about her feelings. **WATCH OUT FOR:** Anna actually gets fatter as the DVD progresses. Amazing!



#3 VICTORIA SILVESDT



Swedish meatballs have been drooling over this monstrously tall buxom blond for aeons. The DVD, like all Playboy video, is as tame as you like, but this has all highlights from Vik's stunning career posing in the buff.

SCORES: 10/10
BABES: 9/10
BOOTY: 7/10
BEST BIT:

Victoria plays a Cinderella far too tall for Prince Charming. **WATCH OUT FOR:** Vic roles with prince charming in front of an open fire.



#4 ADELE STEVENS



New Playmates are coming along by the dozen, but Adele shines out like a penny in a pile of pig plop. Gorgeous and quite clearly brainy, Adele's the kinda girl all us lads wish we could meet in the pub and take home to mother...right?

SCORES: 8/10
BABES: 9/10
BOOTY: 8/10
BEST BIT:

The swimming pool were Adele forgets her swim-suit! **WATCH OUT FOR:** The taxi ride where Adele runs out of money. Fear!



#5 THE DAHM TWINS



The fairly pretty Dahm twins skip around from set to set, stripping to the elevator music while you get more and more frustrated. They have more fun making this video then you ever will watching it.

SCORES: 6/10
BABES: 7/10
BOOTY: 6/10
BEST BIT:

When they take a foamy bath...mmm...foamy. **WATCH OUT FOR:** The soapy bath where all the girls...oops, I'm dribbling.



STUFF & NONSENSE

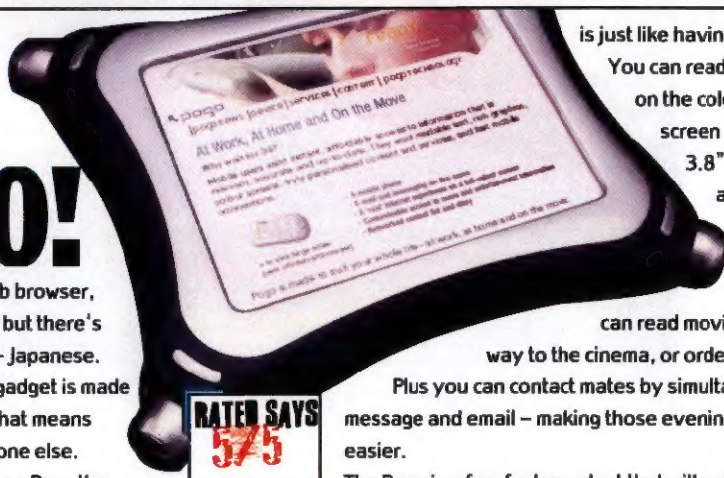
WELCOME TO THE STUFF AND NONSENSE SECTION. RATED'S REGULAR LOOK AT GADGETS, GAMES, TOYS, HARDWARE, MOBILES AND MORE!

pogo! gadget go!

INFO

NAME:
Pogo Mobile
Internet Terminal
PRICE:
£300 (plus
connection fee)
OUT:
Now
ASKED:
Pogo-Tech
CONTACT:
020 7961 4100
WEBSITE:
www.pogo-tech.com

It's a mobile phone, a web browser, an MP3 player and more, but there's one thing the Pogo isn't – Japanese. Yep, this incredible new gadget is made in good old Britain. And that means we can buy it before anyone else. Looking like a chunky Game Boy, the Pogo is a personal organiser with style in mind. Put it up to your ear (or use the included handsfree kit) and it's a mobile phone. But where the Pogo really shines is web browsing. Unlike a WAP phone – which has a tiny screen and can only handle small, stripped-down websites – the Pogo



RATED SAYS
5/5

is just like having a portable PC. You can read regular web pages on the colour touch-sensitive screen (shrunk to fit the 3.8" display) and check emails from your existing PC-based account. With a Pogo you can read movie reviews on the way to the cinema, or order a video in the pub.

Plus you can contact mates by simultaneous text message and email – making those evening meet-ups much easier.

The Pogo is a fun, funky gadget that will really turn some heads when you whip it out in public. And, for £300, it's not as expensive as it could be.

*At present, the Pogo is only available from Carphone Warehouse shops.



all play and no work

THE BEST DESK-BASED ENTERTAINMENT

#1 RUBBER BAND GUN (£19.95)



Still flicking 'lucky bands with your fingers? Time to upgrade! This wooden weapon, styled after the Colt 45 pistol, can rapid-fire 12 rubber bands and comes with a spare gun for your opponent – plus a bag of 'ammo'.

#2 CROSSBOW (£25.95)



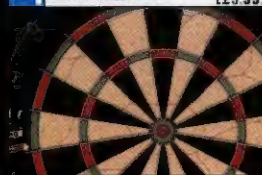
There's only one in the pack, and it's not as quick-firing as the rubber band Colt, but this crossbow packs a mean punch. With the supplied wall target, you can live out those William Tell fantasies (apple not supplied).

#3 MOBILE SENSOR PEN (£10.95)



Embarrassed by your mobile's bleepy rendition of Eminem's Stan? Then switch off the ringer and get one of these, dammit. The tip of the pen flashes when you receive a call, plus you'll look a bit like James Bond. Probably.

#4 DESK DARTS (£5.99)



Who says you need a beer belly and a love of peanuts to play darts? This dinky desk version is just right for some athletic wrist action. Just the ticket for exercising that drinking arm...

#5 DESK AIR SOCCER (£12.99)



Are you a fan of those air hockey games you get in bowling alleys but sick of getting blisters from the flying plastic pucks? This mini version (it's called foosie but is just the same) should prove safer.

YOUR CD collection TO GO!

RATED SAYS
3/5

To most folk, transporting your CD collection means a fleet of donkeys laden with rather heavy sacks – and a lot of carrots. But there is a high-tech alternative.

The DAP (Digital Audio Player) Jukebox looks like a CD Walkman but houses a hard disk drive with a whopping 20 Gigabytes of storage space – enough for 500 CDs.

Simply connect the Jukebox to a PC or a Mac with a USB cable (included) and you can download MP3s, Windows Media Player files or other digital formats.

Plus the included software allows you to transfer tunes from your precious CDs onto the hard drive where they're stored in a clever library, under artist or music style.

You can also record direct from an external source, like a microphone, and edit the sound on a PC with the included PlayCenter software.

The Jukebox pumps out some cracking sound quality with the included headphones, and it can also produce four channel surround through external speakers.

At over £300 it's pricey but there's no other way you can take your entire CD collection on the bus.

INFO

NAME: DAP Jukebox 20GB
PRICE: £330
OUT: Now
MAKER: Creative Labs
CONTACT: 0800 376 7954
WEBSITE: uk.europe.creative.com

NEWS

Out soon is this amazing new Nokia which has a built-in digital camera, allowing you to snap photos and send them to a compatible phone or email address. It's also WAP-enabled and uses the new MMS technology (Multimedia Messaging Service) which enables messages with pictures and audio as well as text. A cool tool indeed.



Coffee giant (Aargh, they're everywhere!) Starbucks is trialling a scheme whereby thirsty folk can order their favourite hot beverage over their WAP phone and it will be ready to pick up from one of those oh-so handy shops five minutes later. The plan is to only run the scheme in coffee capital Seattle for the moment. Lucky escape there.



Slipknot have launched a mobile phone-based fan club, called Mobile Muggots. By phoning 09068 020230 (it costs £1.50), fans can download track My Plague as a ringtone and get a Slipknot logo icon. You'll also be signed up to receive the latest Slipknot news as text messages.



postman prat

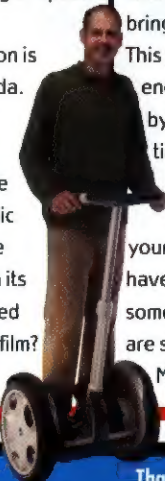
A rumour was buzzing around the internet for years about a revolutionary new form of transport on its way. And now it's arrived. So was it a Star Trek style teleporter or a light-speed drive? Erm, no, it was a silly-looking scooter.

Called the Segway, the American invention is currently being tested by posties in Florida.

It's battery-powered and can reach speeds of up to 17 mph. Cool!

Sadly (or not) the Segway isn't available to buy just yet. Postmen and other public services like police (we kid you not) are currently putting the invention through its paces. But can you imagine a low-speed Segway chase in the latest Hollywood film? No, thought not.

RATED SAYS
3/5



power to the people

RATED SAYS
4/5

With a Mo-Go in your pocket, you can bring your dead mobile back to life.

This pocket-size gadget bestows enough juice for a day's stand-by or about 50 minutes talk time. Powered by three AAA batteries, it also comes with a built-in torch for finding your keys. Certainly something Nokia should have had ages ago. This'll probably make somebody very rich. (Note: At present, there are separate versions of the Mo-Go for Nokia, Motorola and Ericsson phones.)

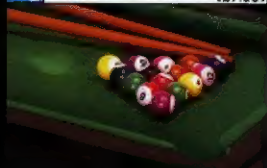


INFO

NAME: Mo-Go
PRICE: £9.95
OUT: Now
MAKER: Mo-Go
CONTACT: Firebox
WEBSITE: www.firebox.com

Thanks to: www.iwantoneofthose.com

#6 MINI POOL TABLE (£7.99)



A full-size pool table, if you're a mouse, for us humans this fits nicely on a desk for a spot of impromptu ball-bashing. And, should you wish, you can even challenge the local rodent population for a game or two.

#7 RECORDING PEN (£18.95)



There was something important we had to tell you about this pen but we've forgotten what it was. If only we could digitally record up to 20 seconds of our voice on an ordinary-looking pen and play it back. Hang on a minute...

#8 MOUSE PAD NOTEPAD (£7.50)



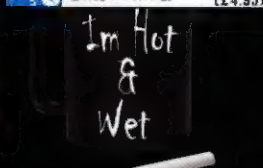
Like the lucky git who earned a fortune from selling sticky bits of yellow paper, somebody's probably made pots of cash off this. It's a mouse pad but made of reams of notepad – handy for doodling or scribbling down notes.

#9 PEN-ULTIMATE (£4.99)



Guaranteed to stop you doing any work whatsoever is the Pen Ultimate. Gasp at its gravity defying-ness, swoon at the swirly pattern as it spins, be amazed when you find out you can actually pick it up and write with it!

#10 CHALK MUG (£4.99)



Haven't we grown up from scribbling on the blackboard yet? If the urge is still there, coupled with a taste for a refreshing hot beverage, then this chalk message mug is the answer. Plus, it comes with a free stick of chalk.

For more information on gadgets/toys [iwantoneofthose.com](http://www.iwantoneofthose.com) - 0870 241 1066

toys
and
comics

FOR THE LADIES

TIPS TO GET YOU OUT
OF THE DOG HOUSE#1 BOYFRIEND REMOTE
CONTROL

[£5.99]

- If she feels she has no control over you, give her some that's battery powered.



#2 INFLATABLE HUSBAND

[£6.99]



- The ideal gift for when you can't be there (or are too knackered) to fulfil her desires.

#3 PAMPERING PACK

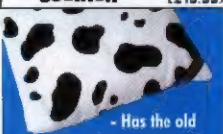
[£6.99]



- £7 and you'll be free to go to the football while she gets through this lot. Nice!

#4 'MAD COW' AROMA
CUSHION

[£15.99]



- Has the old 'time of the month' got your missus feeling all MOODY? Get one of these.

#5 TOTAL BITCH SOAP

[£5.99]



- Ideal for lifting the post-argument spirits. That's assuming she sees the funny side. Tread carefully son!

www.zestessentials.com

Virtual
insanity

Buying a PlayStation 2 gadget

that costs more than the machine is foolhardy, yes, but at least with one of these you'll be the envy of Lawnmower Man fans everywhere.

Simply connect the Eye-Trek to your console, strap the goggles to your boat race and brace yourself for a cinematic game experience. Olympus claim that the effect is akin to having a 52-inch TV floating before your eyes and, especially with a racer like Gran Turismo 3 playing, it really puts you in the action. The built-in headphones are nicely atmospheric too.



INFO

NAME: Eye-Trek FMD-20P
PRICE: £300
OUT: Now
MAKER: Olympus
CONTACT: 0800 0720070
WEBSITE: www.eye-trek.com

RATED SAYS
4/5

But prolonged use isn't recommended, as the Eye-Trek induces a feeling rather like being drunk. Just without the fun part.

candid
camera

We all want to be James Bond but if getting the girls and the fast cars is proving tricky, there is one thing you can obtain - this cool Q-style gadget.

Camera watches have been around for a bit but Casio have finally cracked the colour problem. Not only does the snappily named WQV-10 take pics in colour but the screen is too. Up to 100 digital photos can be stored in the watch's memory and downloaded to a PC for twiddling or printing. Best of all is the Databank function which allows you to add a name and phone number to people's pictures. Essential for those with low recall of girls' numbers (and faces) the morning after the night before. And it even tells the time!



RATED SAYS
5/5

INFO

NAME: WQV-10 watch-cam
PRICE: TBC
OUT: Now
MAKER: Casio
CONTACT: 020 8208 7813
WEBSITE: www.casio.co.uk

phone zone

MOBILE MADNESS, RATED STYLE

TOP FIVE MOBILE PHONES

#1 TRIUM ECLIPSE

One of the most high-tech yet affordable phones around - if only you could find a shop that stocks it. The Eclipse boasts a colour display, voice recorder, built-in handsfree, vibration, infra-red link, personalised ringtones and - best of all - two decent Rayman games.

PRICE: £100-£150 (contract)/
£250 (Pay As You Go)
www.trium.net



#2 NOKIA 5510

The 5510 can now be snapped up for about £50 on contract. You can download CDs or MP3s from a hi-fi or PC, listen to the radio, send messages with the keyboard or play one of five games. Oh, you can talk to people on it too!

PRICE: £50-£99 (contract)
www.nokia.co.uk



#3 NOKIA 8210

An oldie but still a goodie. The 8210 is still proving popular despite knocking on a bit now. Its small size, simple operation, swappable fascias and - of course - Snake, are a big hit. As is the cheap price, as the 8210 can now be picked up on contract for now! in most mobile shops.

PRICE: Free/£20 (contract)/
£200 (PAYG) www.nokia.co.uk



A British comics publisher is taking on the American giants - thanks to a girl with a big gun and even bigger boobs. London-based Com.X hope their star character Bazooka Jules will do for them what Batman did for DC. Graphically, it's Manga-esque but with a background based on the classic US superhero stories - told with tongue firmly in cheek. A fan of kung-fu films, wrestling and nu-metal, Jules is just an ordinary schoolgirl - until a mutant symbiote weapon takes a fancy to her, giving her the ability to grow guns from her arms. Oh, and has a pair of huge tits too. If you fancy something darker, Com.X's Puncture series is a brooding, bloody tale of an anti-hero trying to right wrongs - told in a vivid, rain-soaked style. Issues 1-3 of both Bazooka Jules and Puncture are available now at all good comics shops, or online from www.comxcomics.com. Grab a copy while you can, cos they're gonna be big.

comics

metal gear lego!

It could only happen in Japan. Don't expect to see them over here but a range of Lego-like Japanese toys called Kubricks are now available in cool MGS2 styles. The officially-licensed figures come complete with realistic costumes and weaponry but are only about 2 1/2 inches tall. If you really want to get hold of some, try your local comic shop. Highly collectable stuff!

plastic gear solid

You've got the game (and if not, why not?), bought the T-shirt, now collect the action figure. McFarlane Toys have come up with the goods again after the excellent figures from MGS1, and this time there's an excuse to collect the set. With each of the six figures (Solid Snake, Olga Gurlukovich, Revolver Ocelot, Raiden, Fortune and Solidus Snake) comes a piece of another figure. Assemble all six and you'll get a mini version of Metal Gear Ray itself. Very cool stuff indeed.

dvd gamecube

First, the good news. If you want a Gamecube but are put off by the fact that it can't play DVDs, this one can. The bad news is it's not coming out in the UK (yet). The Gamecube Q is a joint venture between Panasonic, who've supplied the DVD gubbins, and Nintendo, who've added the Gamecube portion. Sadly, the Q is only available in Japan (not even America) but you should be able to pick one up from an import house. But bear in mind that the machine will need to be chipped to play UK and US Gamecube games, and the Japanese DVD player is Region 2 - like the UK - but is NTSC, meaning regular Euro discs won't work. But if the machine looks this good, it's surely worth a bit of faffing about.

RATED SAYS
4/5



INFO

NAME: Gamecube Q
PRICE: About £350 (import)
OUT: Now
MAKER: Panasonic
CONTACT: importer (e.g. Lik-sang.com)
WEBSITE: www.dvdgame.jp

q up for this!

Here's a gadget straight out of Bond's Q-Branch. Storm's Lumino watch is a timepiece that, at the press of a button, produces a powerful blast of neon blue from a tiny hole in its side. Best of all, you can flip open the watch's face and remove the tiny torch (no bigger than a £1 coin) to use independently. Sadly the combination of a stainless steel watch, torch and the two batteries it takes to power it all, causes the Lumino to weigh the size of a small rock. But if you've got muscly wrists,

and a hankering to be Bond, it's worth a look. The watch also features a date function, and there's a temperature conversion scale hidden away, too.

RATED SAYS
3/5



INFO

NAME: Lumino watch
PRICE: £97.99
OUT: Now
MAKER: Storm
CONTACT: 020 7874 6900
WEBSITE: www.stormwatche.com

WAP OR CRAP?

WHAT IS IT?
The WAP (Wireless Application Protocol) standard allows your phone to access online information like football scores, weather forecasts or locations of curry houses.

HOW MUCH?

A WAP phone can be picked up for free (on a contract) or about £70-£100 on Pay as You Go. Decent starter WAP phones include the Siemens C45 or the Nokia 3330.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

There are two WAP types to choose from. GSM phones charge you for as long as you're connected, while the GPRS system means you're connected all the time and you pay for whatever you send and receive.

WHERE TO WAP?

To start you off, some top WAP sites include: www.gelco.net - as well as a WAP search engine, log onto the website on a PC and you can play with Wapalizer, a device that lets you see WAP sites on the web.

<http://natasja.com> - the sex position calculator! Enter your desired effect and the WAP site will give step-by-step instructions on how to pull it off, plus a teasing piccy of your chosen position.

www.pocketdoctor.co.uk - unsightly lumps in strange places? Embarrassed to go to a real quack? Simply input a list of symptoms and the site will do the rest. But it's no substitute for the real thing.

<http://mobile.sports.com> - get the latest scores in the Premiership, check the up-to-date F1 rankings or see just how badly the Brits are doing at tennis.

#4 SONY J7

Only released a few months ago, the funky blue J7 is selling strong. And here's why: WAP access (including sending and receiving email), recordable ringtones (our favourite is a barking dog), four decent games, a contacts organiser and a great battery (330 hours standby, 9 hours talktime).

PRICE: £50 (con) / £120 (PAYG)
www.sonycommunications.co.uk



#5 SAMSUNG A300

Look like Steve Owen (before the crash! - ED). This is a flip phone with a difference, with a screen on the outside that shows who's calling before you answer. It's also got predictive text input and a 'compose your own melody' option for the ringtones. It's also got long battery life too. Slick.

PRICE: £100 (con), £200 (PAYG)



THE BEST OF THE REST

NOKIA 3330 Free-£30 (CONTRACT) £100-£130 (PAYG)	ERICSSON T66 £150 (CONTRACT)	
SONY Z7 £10-£80 (CONTRACT) £200 (PAYG)	SIEMENS C45 £Free (CONTRACT) £80-£150 (PAYG)	MOTOROLA V66 £130-£150 (CONTRACT)

TUNES

4/5 **FOG - PNEUMONIA**
FOG

A bizarre yet pleasing mix of acoustic guitar, decks and drum samples, which manages to be uplifting and a little melancholy at the same time. A vocal comparison to Neil Young is unavoidable.

5/5 **AIM - HINTERLAND**
OUT NOW
**RATED
RECOMMEND**

Following strongly on the Hip Hop feel of his first album, the beats will keep your feet and hands tapping throughout. A superb album packed full of seriously chilled, laid back goodness. Excellent stuff.

3/5 **DANDY WARHOLS - GET OFF**
OUT NOW

After the success of their re-releases 'Bohemian Like You' single, the follow up is also a re-release. Not as upbeat or infectious as their last offering but definitely a grower. One for the indie crowd.

4/5 **ALFIE - A WORD IN YOUR EAR**
OUT NOW

The very unique indie five piece are back with their new album. It's really hard to begin describing this album. It definitely has a folk feel but it also has something else, its that 'something else' that makes this album so good. Worth a listen.

3/5 **HARRISON - MY SWEET LORD RELEASE**

George Harrison farewell single is a re-release which first topped the charts in

1971. The song has the sound of the Beatles mixed with American style gospel and is undeniably a classic. Proceeds from the single are being donated to charity.

2/5 **MEN IN BLACK**

Hip hop and R'n'B through and through. There are a few okay songs on here

like the title track by Will Smith. There is nothing really bad or special on the Album with the exception of 31's 'Waiting for love' which is awesome.

That's their opinion, maybe you disagree? If so, email me, ben.keen@thincmedia.co.uk

TOP 10 RATED

TOUGHEST
TV AND
MOVIE
ACTION
BABES

EVER WONDERED WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF JANEWAY, RIPLEY AND BUFFY KICKED OFF? WE DO. HERE ARE THE RESULTS IN A TOP 10 ACTION BABES CHART!

#3

TRINITY

FROM: The Matrix - Revisited, Out now.
PLAYED BY: Carrie Anne Moss
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: Handgun, Berretta.
ALSO USES: A lot of high kicks and fists. Known to handle machine guns too and belt you with an elbow.
MALE VERSION: Keanu of course, her partner in fate kicking fun. Soon to be seen doing it again in Matrix II

#5

BUFFY

FROM: Buffy The Vampire Slayer.
PLAYED BY: Sarah Michelle Geller.
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: A long hard sharp stake or whatever's handy to stab some ghoul with.
ALSO USES: A lethal combo of hairstyles, she can stun an alien at 20 paces. Though the bob worked for us.
MALE VERSION: Angel, the butsters vampy boyfriend.

#7

CAPTAIN JANEWAY

FROM: Star Trek Voyager PLAYED BY: Kate Mulgrew
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: Phaser or one of them rifle jobs. Unlike Jim, Jane avoids punching aliens if possible.
ALSO USES: A lethal combo of hairstyles, she can stun an alien at 20 paces. Though the bob worked for us.
MALE VERSION: Jean Luc Picard. Obviously really. Any half hearted Trekkie/serial killer knows that!

#9

SYDNEY PRESCOTT

FROM: Scream PLAYED BY: Neve Campbell
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: Running, screaming and Olympic knife dodging. Flexible back and all that.
ALSO USES: A gun, usually in the films climax to nail the bad guy, then again when he jumps to life...again.
MALE VERSION: Alex Browning, the death dodger in Final Destination. That kids got problems.

#1

RIPLEY

FROM: Alien movie series PLAYED BY: Sigourney Weaver
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: Flamethrower, pulse rifle, harpoon gun.
ALSO USES: Cargo/weapon loader. A bit slow on the punch though.
MALE VERSION: John McClane, a die-hard have-a-go hero - minus the aliens.

#2

HU LI

FROM: Rush Hour 2 PLAYED BY: Zhang Ziyi
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: Feet. As lethal as in Crouching Tiger, Zhang kicks butt very hard.
ALSO USES: Guns, lots of big ass guns and spears too. Screams alot, which is good.
MALE VERSION: Jackie Chan, but she's probably a little faster than the Chanster. Sorry Jackie.

#4

YU SHU LIEN

FROM: Crouching Tiger Hidden Dragon
PLAYED BY: Michelle Yeoh
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: Sword, feet, hands and anything not screwed down. She'll kill you with a carrot.
ALSO USES: Huge poles, spears, axes and anti-gravity boots apparently. Soon to be seen in Matrix II.
MALE VERSION: Chow Yun Fat, of the same film.

#6

XENA

FROM: XENA: Warrior Princess PLAYED BY: Lucy Lawless
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: A bloody great sword and lethal twirly round thing. Wussat?...oof!
ALSO USES: Her feet and fists in a kind of kung-fu type thing...cool. Can take out multiple enemies with a scream.
MALE VERSION: Hercules, another channel 5 Favourite.

#8

SARAH CONNOR

FROM: Terminator PLAYED BY: Linda Hamilton
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: An M16 rifle, knife and teeth shattering thump. Muscular arms put men off too.
ALSO USES: High velocity shotgun and tight vest to confuse robot-types. Underarm hair. Sweaty.
MALE VERSION: Grizzled Vietnam vet Chuck Norris shares the same facial hair and smarly acting skills.

#10

LARA CROFT

FROM: Tomb Raider PLAYED BY: Angelina Jolie
WEAPON/S OF CHOICE: Two hip holstered hand pistols.
ALSO USES: Uzi, shotgun and a swift kick to the baby factory...oof. She can also clock you whilst staring at boobs.
MALE VERSION: Indiana Jones of course, though - he doesn't have the boobs or the CGI budget.

TOP 10 RATED

MUST WATCH - WAR MOVIES

IF YOUR IDEA OF A GOOD WAR FILM IS PEARL HARBOUR OR BRAVEHEART THEN YOU NEED A HISTORY BOOK, A REALLY HARD SLAP AND A TRIP TO BLOCKBUSTER TO HIRE THIS LOT....



#1 APOCALYPSE NOW REDUX (1979)

STARRING: Martin Sheen and Marlon Brando
DIRECTED BY: Francis Ford Coppola
INFO: Includes 49 minutes of previously unseen footage, Apocalypse Now Redux is the reference standard of Francis Coppola's 1979 epic. A metaphorical hallucination of the 'nam War, the film was re-constructed by Coppola and editor Walter Murch to enrich themes and clarify the ending.
INTERESTING FACT: Marlon Brando, so conscious of his weight gain made Coppola drench his scenes in black to only show his face and not his pie factory.

#2 SAVING PRIVATE RYAN (1998)

STARRING: Tom Hanks, Matt Damon and Tom Sizemore
DIRECTED BY: Steven Spielberg
INFO: A war epic which tells the story of four brothers from the same family who are all fighting in the Second World War. On Washington's orders Captain Miller is sent behind enemy lines to bring back the sole surviving brother, Private Ryan.
INTERESTING FACT: The film fails to mention the British or Canadian troop landings.

#3 PLATOON (1986)

STARRING: Charlie Sheen, William Defoe and Tom Berenger
DIRECTED BY: Oliver Stone
INFO: Platoon simply showed the daily reality of the Vietnam war from the point of view of ordinary soldiers. Stone's own service in Vietnam gives his work a unique authenticity. Charlie Sheen gives his best performance to date.
INTERESTING FACT: Johnny Depp makes an early appearance as a young GI.

#4 FULL METAL JACKET 1987

STARRING: Matthew Modine, Adam Baldwin and R. Lee Emy
DIRECTED BY: Stanley Kubrick
INFO: Follows marine Private Joker, from his extra-tough training through to climactic involvement in the Vietnam war, and particularly the heavy fighting at Hue during the bloody 1968 Tet offensive.
INTERESTING FACT: The battle scenes were filmed in the London docklands before development in the 90's.

#5 THE BRIDGE OVER THE RIVER KWAI 1957

STARRING: William Holden and Alec Guinness
DIRECTED BY: David Lean
INFO: Based on the true story of the building of a bridge on the Burma railway by British prisoners-of-war held under a savage Japanese regime in World War II.
INTERESTING FACT: The screenplay was written by Pierre Boulle, the writer of Monkey Planet, which inspired Planet of the Apes.

#6 THE LONGEST DAY 1962

STARRING: John Wayne, Henry Fonda and Robert Mitchum
DIRECTED BY: Bernhard Wicki, Andrew Merton
INFO: Hollywood's definitive D-day movie. Saving Private Ryan is more vividly realistic, but producer Darryl F Zanuck's epic 1962 account is the only one to attempt the daunting task of covering that fateful day from all perspectives.
INTERESTING FACT: Henry Fonda plays the son of former US president, Theodore Roosevelt.

#7 BORN ON THE FORTH OF JULY 1989

STARRING: Tom Cruise, William Defoe and Tom Berenger
DIRECTED BY: Oliver Stone
INFO: Stone moves from the brutality of war in Platoon to its equally traumatic aftermath. Based on the memoir of combat veteran Ron Kovic, stars Cruise as Kovic, whose wound in Vietnam left him paralysed from the chest down.
INTERESTING FACT: The film is part of Oliver Stone's supposed Vietnam trilogy - Platoon, Heaven and Earth and finally Born on the Forth of July.

#8 THE GREAT ESCAPE 1963

STARRING: Steve McQueen, James Garner and Richard Attenborough
DIRECTED BY: John Sturges
INFO: An ultra-high security prison where the most notorious and dangerous prisoners of war are brought together. The premise? These men, officers of the Allied forces, have one goal in mind: ESCAPE.
INTERESTING FACT: One of Steve McQueen's first leading roles was 1956 b-movie The Blob. His character was a teenager named...er...Steve.

#9 GLORY 1989

STARRING: Matthew Broderick, Denzel Washington and Morgan Freeman
DIRECTED BY: Edward Zwick
INFO: Glory also draws from the letters of Robert Gould Shaw (played by Matthew Broderick). The 25-year-old son of Boston abolitionists who volunteered to command the all-black 54th Regiment of the Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry in the US civil war.
INTERESTING FACT: Denzel Washington picked up 'best supporting actor' oscar in 1989 for his role in Glory.

#10 DAS BOOT 1982

STARRING: Jurgen Prochnow
DIRECTED BY: Wolfgang Petersen
INFO: Realistic, meticulously mounted nail-biter chronicling a German U-boat on a mission during WW2, with Prochnow solid as its commander. Based on Lothar-Guenther Buchheim's autobiographical novel.
INTERESTING FACT: ORIGINALLY FILMED AS A SIX-HOUR MINI SERIES FOR TV.

Win DVDs!



APOCALYPSE NOW REDUX DVD COMPETITION

To celebrate the release of Apocalypse Now Redux on April 8th, RATED are giving away 10 copies of this astonishing war film on DVD.

To win, simply call 09064-774479 and answer the following question...

Who directed Apocalypse Now Redux?

- A: Francis Ford Coppola
- B: Oliver Stone
- C: Steven Spielberg

CALL 09064- 774479 AND WIN!

Competition open to persons of 18 years and above. Please seek permission from whoever pays the bill before phoning. Calls cost 60p per minute, call lasts approximately 3 minutes.



XBOX vs Gamecube

IT'S THE GAMING GRUDGE MATCH OF THE DECADE, AS MICROSOFT AND NINTENDO BATTLE FOR YOUR CASH. RATED SHOUTS: 'GAME ON!'

WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

Xbox
PRICE
 £299 (out now)
HARDWARE
 8-gigabyte hard disk drive
 DVD player (requires
 Playback Kit for movies),
 broadband adaptor
ACCESSORIES
 Optional 8Mb memory cards,
 extra joypads, Game
 Commander headset for
 network gaming.

before XBOX,

the nearest Microsoft got to gaming was PC flight sims. Not a good pedigree to challenge legends like Sony and Nintendo, you'd think. But people were saying the same about Sony seven years ago. Nowadays, even your gran knows what a PlayStation is. Now that Brit gamers can finally get their hands on Xbox (after America and Japan have had their fix) the console itself isn't as huge as you might have heard. It won't take up any more room than the average video recorder or DVD player but, unlike Gamecube, it won't be as easy to lug over to a mate's house for spot of multiplayer.

But there's a reason Xbox is more Jabba and less Leia: there's so much crammed inside. There's an 8Gb hard disk drive for saves and to store game data, making load times

much swifter than the often painfully slow PS2.

But the hard drive's potential goes beyond a mere memory card. Game actions can be 'remembered' by the computer. For instance, your character could get into a scrap early on and carry a scar for the rest of the adventure. Very cool. The hard drive also acts as storage space for game upgrades such as the latest stats for a footie management sim.

Around the back of the 'Box is an ethernet port. With this, you can get fraggin' with other Xbox owners down a broadband phone line or, using an X-Link cable, attach to another Xbox in the same room or over a local network.

As for the controller, once you've got over its hefty girth, it's a doddle to use. There are pressure-sensitive buttons, built-in rumble and even a detachable cable to prevent the Xbox crashing to the floor if some clumsy sod trips over the wire. It seems like Bill Gates has thought of everything.

THE HARDWARE

MICROSOFT ARE RE-WRITING THE CONSOLE RULEBOOK. BUT CAN THEY BEAT THE JAPANESE GIANTS AT THEIR OWN GAME?



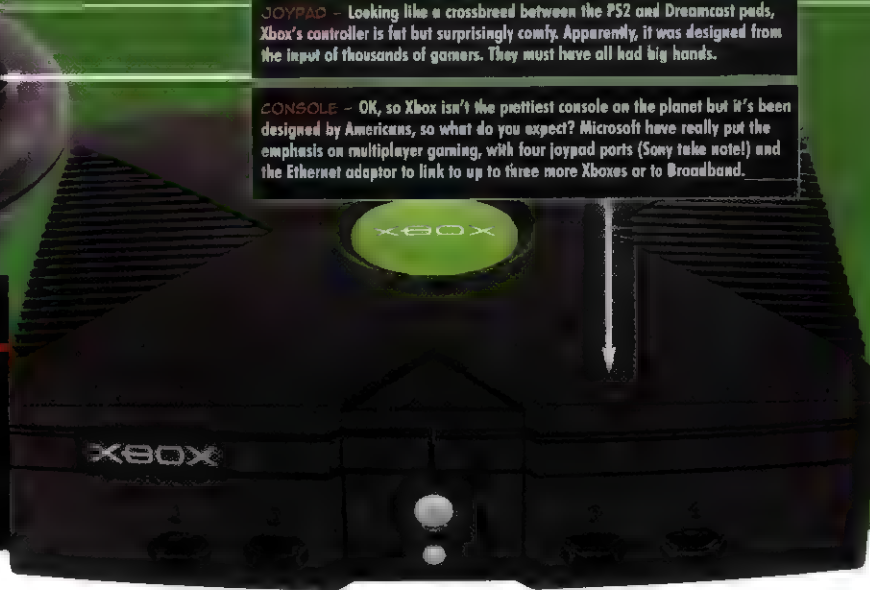
JOYPAD - Looking like a crossbreed between the PS2 and Dreamcast pads, Xbox's controller is fat but surprisingly comfy. Apparently, it was designed from the input of thousands of gamers. They must have all had big hands.

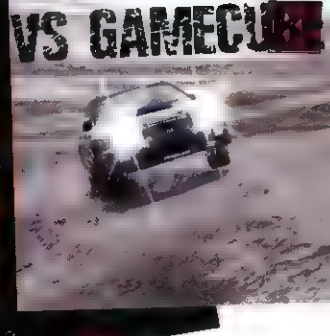
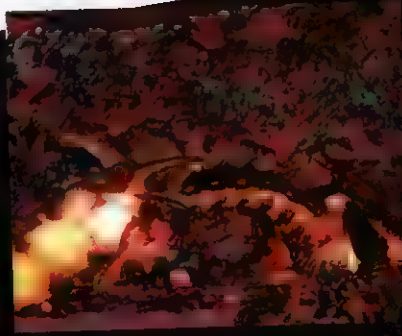
CONSOLE - OK, so Xbox isn't the prettiest console on the planet but it's been designed by Americans, so what do you expect? Microsoft have really put the emphasis on multiplayer gaming, with four joypad ports (Sony take note!) and the Ethernet adaptor to link to up to three more Xboxes or to Broadband.

NEED TO KNOW

BROADBAND BOTHER - Provided you have a high speed phone line (like ADSL or cable), you'll soon be able to play games like Unreal Championship against other Xbox owners. You won't be able to browse the web but the potential is amazing. The network will launch later this year.

RIPPING TUNES - One of the coolest features of Xbox is the ability to record music from your own CDs onto the hard drive and listen to them in-game. Having Prodigy's Smack My Bitch Up blasting out while playing a beat 'em up sounds like a winner to us.





XBOX VS GAMECUBE

gaming-cubed

WHAT'S PURPLE, PLASTIC AND WILL MAKE NINTENDO SINK OR SWIM? RATED FLIPS ITS LID OVER GAMECUBE.

On first impressions, it seems like Nintendo's last chance to steal the games industry back from Sony is doomed to disaster.

Gamecube has no PS2-style DVD player, none of Dreamcast's net-surfing gadgetry and no Xbox-y hard drive. As new launches go, this sounds like the Titanic.

But Gamecube is perfectly named: a cube that plays games, pure and simple. Ditching fancy gadgetry like a DVD player means a portable size (especially with its handle) and cheaper production costs (it's nearly half the price of Xbox). Good news all round, then.

The first thing that strikes you about Gamecube is how bloody small it is. Compared with the slab-like Xbox, GC is an

incredibly cute and cool-looking machine. There are even two colours to choose from; Indigo (purple) and Jet (black). Lucky Japanese gamers got a third colour: Spice (a dusky orange). Even the discs are small. It's hard to believe an 8cm-wide piece of plastic could hold an entire game.

Small also applies to the joypad, which is the opposite of Xbox's chunky gaming grip. In fact, some people will find the pad too small for comfort. Critics have also poked fun at the 'Cube controller's pre-school toy looks but it works a treat. It's a shame Nintendo didn't opt for pressure-sensitive buttons but there are two analogue triggers that are ready-made for racing games, and the layout is pretty idiot-proof. One area that Gamecube hasn't addressed is online gaming. Nintendo opted not to go down the same path now being cut by Xbox and, recently, PS2. Not yet anyway.

Underneath the Gamecube you'll find slots for a modem or broadband adaptor that will (probably) be released at a later date.

So, with a budget-friendly price and at least 20 games available for launch on May 3, it seems like Nintendo has finally recognised what Brit gamers want.

WHAT'S IN THE BOX?

NAME: Gamecube
MANUFACTURER: Nintendo
PRICE: About £170 (out May 3)
HARDWARE: IBM graphics chip, 8cm DVD drive (no movie playback), custom graphics chip.
ACCESSORIES: 4-Mbit memory cards, extra joypads, Wavebird wireless controller, Broadband adaptor and modem (coming soon)

SEE THE DVD FOR MORE!

THE HARDWARE

WITH A NEW KID ON THE BLOCK, NINTENDO ARE GOING TO HAVE TO PULL OUT SOMETHING PRETTY SPECIAL. OH, THEY HAVE...

Gamecube uses these special mini DVDs that are exclusive to Nintendo. Obviously, due to their size they can only store half the data of a full-size DVD (1.5Gb, for fans) so expect some big games to come on two or more discs. The first two-discer will be the remake of Resident Evil.



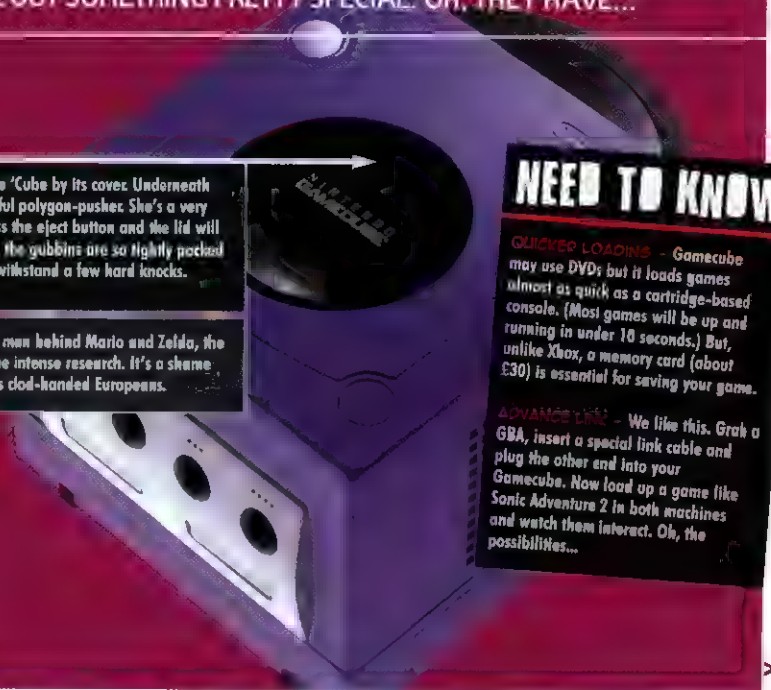
CONSOLE - Don't judge the 'Cube by its cover. Underneath the cute exterior lies a powerful polygon-pusher. She's a very well-made machine, too. Press the eject button and the lid will gracefully glide open, and all the gubbins are so tightly packed inside that it could probably withstand a few hard knocks.

JOYPAD - Designed by the man behind Mario and Zelda, the 'Cube pad is the result of some intense research. It's a shame that research didn't include us clod-handed Europeans.

NEED TO KNOW

QUICKER LOADS - Gamecube may use DVDs but it loads games almost as quick as a cartridge-based console. (Most games will be up and running in under 10 seconds.) But, unlike Xbox, a memory card (about £30) is essential for saving your game.

ADVANCE LINK - We like this. Grab a GBA, insert a special link cable and plug the other end into your Gamecube. Now load up a game like Sonic Adventure 2 in both machines and watch them interact. Oh, the possibilities...



>> the games

EVERY NEW CONSOLE NEEDS A FLAGSHIP GAME THAT REALLY SHOWS OFF WHAT THE MACHINE CAN DO. RATED PLAYTESTS XBOX AND GAMECUBE'S 'KILLER APPS'.

HALO

XBOX

DEVELOPER: BUNGIE
PUBLISHER: MICROSOFT
PRICE: £45
PLAYERS: 1-16 (VIA X-LINK)

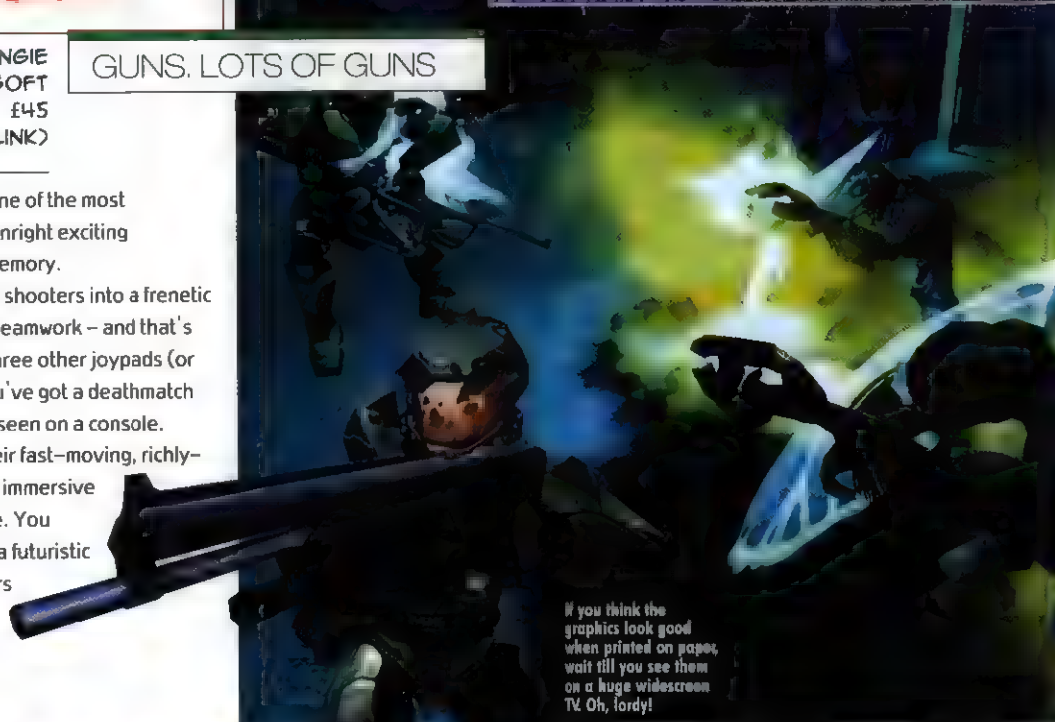
GUNS. LOTS OF GUNS

For once, the hype is right. Halo is one of the most impressive, action-packed and downright exciting videogame experiences in recent memory.

It blends the best bits of first person shooters into a frenetic mix of gunplay, stealth, tactics and teamwork – and that's just the one-player mode. Plug in three other joypads (or link four consoles together) and you've got a deathmatch experience unlike anything you've seen on a console.

The graphics are incredible in all their fast-moving, richly-detailed glory but it's the incredibly immersive sound which completes the package. You really feel like you're taking part in a futuristic action flick such as *Starship Troopers* or *Aliens*. Halo is, dare we say it, worth buying an Xbox for alone.

BEST BIT: All of it



If you think the graphics look good when printed on paper, wait till you see them on a huge widescreen TV. Oh, lordy!



SIX OF THE BEST

XBOX



Dead or Alive 3 (out now)
Amazing-looking beat 'em up sequel with bouncing boobies!



Project Gotham Racing (out now)
MSR revamp with crushable cars and rippable tunes. Brilliant!



Jet Set Radio Future (out soon)
Cool graphics abound in a sequel to Sega's skate 'n' spray hit.



Buffy the Vampire Slayer (out now)
Ass-kickin' action adventure with you as Miss Summers herself.



Wreckless (out soon)
Smash the Yakuza (and their cars) in this incredible driving game.



Max Payne (out now)
A great port of the PC smash in all its slo-mo Bullet Time glory.

LUIGI'S MANSION

DEVELOPER:
PUBLISHER:
PRICE:
PLAYERS:

NINTENDO
NINTENDO
£45
1

WHO YA GONNA CALL?

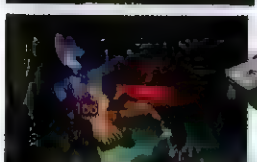
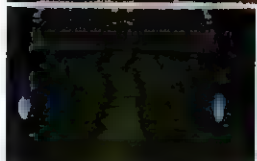
If Halo is an Alien movie, Luigi's Mansion is an episode of Scooby Doo.

Armed with nowt but a spook-scaring flashlight and a spectre-sucking vacuum cleaner, Mario's bro' must find the missing plumber in a cartoon-style haunted house.

As a graphics showcase, 'Mansion is a mixed bag. The lighting effects (glowing transparent ghosts) are incredible but some of the backdrops are oddly N64-like.

But it's great fun – albeit in a slightly old-skool fashion as it's a simple case of clearing rooms of ghosts to win keys to new areas. But it's blessed with the ever-pleasing Nintendo playability.

The definitive Gamecube Mario game is still to come (Mario Sunshine, released later this year) but there can't be many games featuring a flame-throwing Hoover.



The lighting effects in Luigi's Mansion are amazing. Sometimes it's like playing an interactive cartoon. Sometimes...

RATED SAYS

IT'S THE END OF THE MATCH, AND NO KNOCKOUT, SO THE WINNER WILL HAVE TO BE DECIDED ON POINTS...



Xbox: 5/5

Gamecube: 4/5

Xbox wins out slightly in the raw processing power department, but both are much more impressive than PlayStation2, which is now looking a bit old.



Xbox: 5/5

Gamecube: 5/5

Xbox is more expensive (£300) but you get a lot of machine for your money. At about £170 Gamecube is cheaper but, unlike Xbox, you'll need a memory card.



Xbox: 4/5

Gamecube: 4/5

Let's face it, you don't buy consoles to put on the mantelpiece. But Xbox is chunky yet stylish, and the black Gamecube is infinitely cooler than purple.

Xbox: 5/5

Gamecube: 4/5

Hate to say it but Microsoft's muscle should give the Xbox a decent lifespan, but Nintendo are typically shoddy when it comes to catering for Brit gamers.

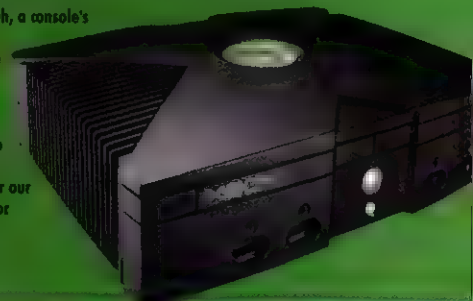
By a nose, Xbox. Microsoft's machine wins out on the potential offered by its incredible specs and the amount of dosh Bill Gates can afford to spend to ensure its success. But it comes at a price.

If you're a more budget conscious gamer who has stuck with Nintendo through and through (and what a brave soul you are) then Gamecube won't fail to impress.

At the end of the day, though, a console's success is measured by its games. Both machines have some cracking software,

including the same games on both formats, like SSX Tricky and Tony Hawk's 3. So it's a tricky decision.

Personally, we'd get Xbox for our birthday and a Gamecube for Christmas...



SIX OF THE BEST

GAMECUBE



Rogue Leader (out now)
Star Wars shoot 'em up with incredible visuals. A Star Wars fans dream. Stunning.



Super Smash Brothers: Melee (out soon)
A rocking beat 'em up starring Nintendo characters from past and present. Classic.



Super Monkey Ball (out now)
Sega's odd but mega-addictive monkey-rolling-puzzle-type thing. Addictive.



Resident Evil (out soon)
Capcom's reworking of the original Resi with almost photo-real graphics. Awesome.



Wave Race: Blue Storm (out now)
Long-awaited sequel to the N64's top jetski game. Great water effects. Excellent.



Sonic Adventure 2: Battle (out now)
Sega's mascot on a Nintendo machine. Who would have thought it?

RATED
MEETS



mark Wahlberg

HE'S BEEN A MODEL FOR BRIEFS, RAPPER MARKY-MARK AND NOW AN ACCOMPLISHED ACTOR. WE MET UP WITH HOLLYWOOD HOTSHOT MARK WAHLBERG FOR A CHAT...

planet of the Apes is the first film in

which you've been the name above the title. Is this a move into a new phase for you?

Yes, they're throwing tons of money at me now, with really bad scripts. It's not gonna change me or my decision making process, find a great filmmaker; commit to him and figure out what the part is second. But I never felt any sort of pressure going in, stepping in to the Heston role. I just wanted to work with Tim Burton. He's one of the most unique artists working in films today. I wasn't a huge fan of the original. I wasn't sure what role he was interested in me for.

You thought you might be an ape?

Yeah and I was hoping that wasn't the case because I hate the make-up chair. But it was just an opportunity to work with him (Burton). I hadn't even read a script. I just said, I'm in if you want.

You tend to work with people a little bit outside of the mainstream, Paul Thomas Anderson, David O'Russell, James Grey, Stephen Herek, Jonathan Demme. Quirky directors.

The filmmaker is first and foremost for me. You know people always say You've got to have a great script, but you can have the best script in the world and if you've got a shooter and not a filmmaker, then you're not going to get a good movie.

What do you think about the comparisons between yourself Steve McQueen. Vanity Fair calls you 'the new Cary Grant' too.

It's not bad to be compared to Steve McQueen or Cary Grant. These are the kind of guys that I really loved, that I could even identify with.

I know you weren't a fan of the original Planet Of The Apes, but what about Heston?

Oh huge. Yeah I was a big Chuck Heston fan - Ben Hur, John The Baptist. The guy is an incredible actor. But talking Apes weren't my thing. I was watching Cagney, watching Ben-Hur, all these fantastic movies with my dad. And of course, in preparing for the role, I went back to watch the original. It wasn't at Tim's request. He said, 'It won't help, it won't hurt. Check it out if you want.' And obviously I have a new-found appreciation and respect for it.

Did you get any feedback from Charlton Heston?

We had already committed to a specific approach to the part and it was the opposite of what Mr. Heston had done. I had my day off when he shot his scene but I went down, I wanted to meet him and spend time with him. You want somebody's approval, but at the end of the day I'm making the movie with and for Tim. So despite what Mr. Heston wants me to do, I have to stick with my guy. He went to the premiere with me and liked what I did with the part.

You returned 'home' to do 'The Perfect Storm'. Do you still see the Shatfords? (Wahlberg played Bobby Shatford, who died at sea.)

Yeah, I was there at Christmas Eve, hanging out in the Crow's Nest

(bar). Grabbed some fish chowder, played some pool.

They still welcome you with open arms?

Yeah.

The film was very respectful to the community (Gloucester, Mass.), but there must be the odd local who doesn't like what was done?

Yeah, Captain Billy Tyne's family. (Laughs). I don't think they liked the way George (Clooney) played the part.

You did three films together, Three Kings, The Perfect Storm, and he produced your next one, Rock Star. Is he in it too?

No. We wouldn't let him!

Weren't you staying at his place in LA or something?

(Laughs) No, no. There were so many ridiculous rumors, like we were living together, sharing a hotel suite, one thing after another... but no, we all hang out.

Has he ever visited you in the 'hood?

(Laughs) No, he'd never come. He could get a one day ghetto pass.

But that's it. It'd have to be a supervised visit. No, but he did spend a lot of time in Boston when we were shooting and he came back for the premiere and stuff.

You were living like a rocker in the Hollywood Hills getting in character for the part in Rock Star, weren't you? How was that?

It was fun. It was fun. There were a few incidents. But, you know, trying to live

that life, it's not easy. I was hanging out with Jason Bonham (son of John, Led Zeppelin's drummer), Zak Wilde?? and these guys. It was just the real deal.

Is Hollywood a lot of bullshit?

You know, when I was growing up, the kind of films I watched with my dad as a kid, I thought it was like the coolest place in the world, Steve McQueen, Paul Newman hung out there, and it was glamorous. And the movie business that I'm in, it's very MTV-ish.

Are you ever going to settle down, have a family?

That's the one thing that's missing in my life is the right woman. You know I'm the only one in my family who isn't married or has kids, so I'd like to. But I haven't really been in the position yet.

TOP FIVE RATED FILMS OF MARK WAHLBERG

We pick five of the best of Mark Wahlberg's filmography...

#1 ROCK STAR

AT THE MOVIES NOW

If you've ever indulged in rock & roll fantasy, Rock Star will give you the vicarious thrill of seeing that fantasy come to life. Talented tribute-band singer Chris Cule (Mark Wahlberg) is tapped to replace his idol as frontman for 1980s metal gods Steel Dragon.

#2 DOGIE NIGHTS

ON DVD

Intense re-creation of life among a "family" of pornographers from the late 1970s through the early 1980s, Wahlberg plays a disaffected 17-year-old with no brains but a formidable sex organ who becomes a porn-movie sensation; Reynolds is perfect as the director/paterfamilias who makes him a star.

#3 THE PERFECT STORM

ON DVD

Based on Sebastian Junger's international best-seller, the film faithfully recounts the true story of the "Storm of the Century" -- a storm that devastated New England in 1991. Wolfgang Peterson crafts a heart-wrenching journey through the storm with state-of-the-art SFX and strong performances.

#4 PLANET OF THE APES

ON DVD

Billed as a "reimagining" of the original 1968 film, Tim Burton's extraordinary Planet of the Apes constantly borders on greatness, adhering to the spirit of Pierre Boulle's original novel while exploring fresh and inventive ideas and paying honorable tribute to the '68 sci-fi classic.

#5 THREE KINGS

ON DVD

A quartet of U.S. soldiers disillusioned by Desert Storm steal \$23 million in gold from Saddam's army. By the end of their mission, the group can no longer ignore the atrocities and conscience demands their aid to Iraqi rebels abandoned by President George Bush's fickle wartime policy.

"they're throwing tons of money at me now, with really bad scripts"



dvd reviews

RATED IS PROUD TO PRESENT OVER 40 DVD REVIEWS TO GUIDE YOU TO THE MUST HAVE DVD PURCHASES!



STARRING Jason Biggs, Seann William Scott and Mena Suvari

AMERICAN PIE 2 DVD OF THE MONTH

EXTRAS:

Commentary by director, producer, writer and cast: Jason Biggs, Seann William Scott and Mena Suvari - Theatrical trailer(s) - DVD and Video trailers - Outtakes - Unseen footage not seen on the film's theatrical release.

IT'S TIME TO GRAB A STAR SPANGLED SPOON AND CHOW DOWN ON AN EVEN BIGGER SLICE OF SMUT FROM THE STATES!



WRITTEN BY:ADAM HERZ
DIRECTED BY:JAMES B ROGERS
DISTRIBUTED BY:COLUMBIA TRISTAR
RUNNING TIME:106 MINS
RELEASE DATE:OUT NOW
RPP:£19.99
CERT:15



They may be a couple of years older but they certainly haven't got any wiser. The cast of hit crude comedy American Pie have made the jump to college but their brains are still in their pants as they embark on another sex-trek. From the moment Jim's dad wished he'd knocked before he burst into his son's dorm room, to the willy lubricant/superglue mix-up, it's as raucous as ever. You may see the laughs coming a mile off ('Hmm, I think I'll have a lie down underneath this balcony while a party-goer with a full bladder stands overhead') but you can't help getting caught up in its dimwittedness. Plus there's plenty of eye-candy in the gorgeous girls the lads completely fail to get off with. So grab the popcorn and enjoy the laughs as they come in by the truckload in one of the funniest DVDs you'll see this year. Unmissable stuff.



SUM UP

Yes, it's more of the same. But what do you expect from the people who first brought you the penis-in-a-pie scene? Unmissable comedy DVD.

RATED SAYS
9/10

MINI REVIEWS:

DIE HARD WITH A VENGEANCE

A feature-packed re-release of the third John McClane actioner that started it all for the budding action man. McClane joins Samuel L. Jackson to thwart yet another terrorist in New York.

RATED 8/10

ENEMY OF THE STATE

Will Smith and Gene Hackman dodge conspiracy theorists in an action-packed thriller, now re-released (like Die Hard 3) on an extras-laden DVD. Includes some behind-the-scenes and more.

RATED 8/10

FRIENDS - SERIES 8

Series 8 of the long winded comedy series sees all the characters getting paid far too much for far too little actual comedy. Plus, their all on drugs and hate each other... allegedly! Old hat.

RATED 5/10

THE LEGEND OF BACCHUS VANCE

Will Smith and Matt Damon discover the meaning of life through... er, golf. Hokey, old-fashioned guff. Suitable for a Sunday or just chilling out with the lady. Directed by Robert Zemeckis. Out now.

RATED 8/10

DRIVEN

Sly Stallone puts 'Stop or my Mom will shoot' on hold to star in and own the script (uh-oh) for this F1 racing flick. It pushes all the right buttons but somehow fails to hit turbo boost. Leave race unexcited.

RATED 4/10

SEXY BEAST

A dark, brutal comedy starring Brit-bad boy Ben Kingsley as a twisted criminal emptied back to the bad life by a Mr Big (brilliantly nasty Ben Kingsley). Gripping, enjoyable movie.

RATED 8/10

A MAP OF THE WORLD

Terrific performances from Sigourney Weaver and Julianne Moore make this tale of an wrongfully imprisoned, better than R sounds. Out now.

RATED 7/10

CELEBRITY

Woody Allen directs an all-star cast in this modern (yet black and white) tale of neurotic New Yorkers and their odd lives (sex and the city for the and books) - just for change. Average.

RATED 5/10

BLOW DRY

American Josh 'I wish I hadn't done Pearl Harbor' Hartnett adopts a bad English accent in this comedy about a Yorkshire hairdressing competition. About as funny as lip kung-fu.

RATED 3/10

THE YARDS

Mark 'Monkey man' Wahlberg gets mixed up in the seedy underworld of New York's train yards in this run of the mill thriller with few surprises. Quality acting though all round.

RATED 7/10

David Boreanaz, Christian Kane and Julie Benz

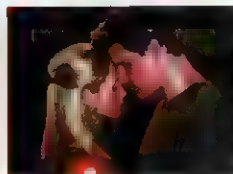
ANGEL: SEASON 2 BOXSET

DARK FANGED WONDER RETURNS FOR A QUALITY SECOND SERIES ON DVD

DIRECTED BY: DAVID BOREANAZ
DISTRIBUTED BY: FOX HOME ENTERTAINMENT
RUNNING TIME: .MINUTES
RELEASE DATE: 15TH APRIL
RRP: £79.99
CERT: .15

EXTRAS:

FTV trailer(s)
- Making of JPHI - Feature Commentary



It is with this second series that Angel, the darker Los Angeles mean-streets spin-off from Buffy, comes entirely into its own. Angel, the vampire with a soul and rather too much hair gel, is driven partly by his need for atonement and partly by his anger at the manipulations of the satanic law firm Wolfram and Hart. At the end of the previous season, they set his emotional destruction in motion by bringing back from hell Daria, the vampire who turned him, whom he loved for centuries and then killed to save Buffy.

There is a nice balance of comedy, horror and the starkly tragic here—fake swamis, accursed shrouds, telekinetic assassins all come into the mix along with Angel's gang of sidekicks—pedantic Wesley, abrasive Gunn, flighty clairvoyant Cordelia—and a new and wonderfully improbable character who starts as a running joke and becomes so much more—the Host (Andy Hallett).

SUM UP

Angel's second season storms onto DVD setting himself truly apart from the buffier. Quality shows and great features on a top DVD.

RATED SAYS
8/10

Michael J. Fox, James Garner, Leonard Nimoy and Claudia Christian.

EXTRAS:

ATLANTIS: THE LOST EMPIRE

DISNEY GO UNDER THE SEA BUT THERE'S NOT A LITTLE MERMAID IN SIGHT

DIRECTED BY: GARY TROUSDALE AND KIRKWISE
DISTRIBUTED BY: BUENA VISTA
RUNNING TIME: .91 MINUTES
RELEASE DATE: .OUT NOW
RRP: £34.99 (COLLECTOR'S EDITION)
CERT: .U

Feature Film Visual Commentary Disney/Pixar



Fact of Fiction of Atlantis: Multiple Platform Navigation System (3-D Menus) Explore Mode - Tour Mode: Enjoy All the Bonus Features as One Continuous program Files Mode: Lists All Features in Sequential Order Deleted Scene: Viking Prologue - Disc 2: Features many more extras.

Milo Thatch is an explorer on a quest to locate the watery lost city, thanks to a book left by his dear departed grandpa. Before long Milo and a high-tech team of seafarers have found the fabled lost city - but the quest doesn't go according to plan.

With an edgier look to the animation and the action cranked up to the max (plus a clampdown on the cheesy tunes), Atlantis isn't your ordinary Disney flick. It's not quite up to Akira standards (and the ending comes over more cheesy than epic) but it's funny, fast-paced and has some cool CGI-enhanced action scenes. Overall a nice break from the Luke warm Disney catalogue.

SUM UP

Despite the sickly sweet ending there can't be many Disney films in which people smoke, shoot each other and wear skimpy outfits.

RATED SAYS
9/10

PHOTOGRAPHING THE VOICE TALENTS OF: Mel Gibson, Phil Hartman and Jon Lovitz.

EXTRAS:

SIMPSONS FILM FESTIVAL

MOVIE MADNESS AND THE SIMPSONS RELEASE A FILM DEDICATED DVD...

DIRECTED BY: MATT GROENIG
DISTRIBUTED BY: 20TH CENTURY FOX
RUNNING TIME: .100 MINUTES
RELEASE DATE: MAY 1ST
RRP: £19.99
CERT: .PG

The Simpsons Film Festival is a collection of four film-themed episodes - including one that's never been seen on BBC2 before. In 'Beyond Blunderdome', Homer and Marge win tickets to a test screening of Mel Gibson's new movie. In 'A Star is Burns', Springfield hosts a film festival to boost its flagging tourism. In '22 Short Films About Springfield', we're sent on a whistle-stop tour of the town's ordinary inhabitants (with a few famous movie references on the way). And in 'Itchy and Scratchy: The Movie', Bart's bad behaviour means a ban on seeing the film all Springfield are dying to watch!

It's a pity there aren't more episodes but this is pure cartoon quality, not quantity. Plus there's a great Troy McClure feature for true fans to enjoy.



Troy McClure featurette trailer



SUM UP

Not as packed as it should have been, but some pure quality episodes to enjoy again and again. Plus a nice Troy McClure extra.

RATED SAYS
9/10

Haley Joel Osment, Jude Law, Frances O'Connor, Sam Robards, Jake Thomas, and William Hurt.

EXTRAS:

A.I.: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

BELEAGUED STANLEY KUBRICK PROJECT GETS THE SPIELBERG TREATMENT...

WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY: STEVEN SPIELBERG
DISTRIBUTED BY: WARNER BROTHERS
RUNNING TIME: .150 MINUTES
RELEASE DATE: .OUT NOW
RRP: £19.99
CERT: .15

Robotic child David is shunned by his parents and is joined by fellow "mecha" Gigolo Joe (Jude Law) in his quest for a mother-and-child reunion. Parallels to Pinocchio intensify as David reaches "the end of the world" (a Manhattan flooded by melted polar ice caps), and a far-future epilogue propels A.I. into even deeper realms of wonder. Some may resist the alteration of Kubrick's original vision, but this is Spielberg's A.I. (complete with one of John Williams's finest scores), a film of astonishing technical wizardry that spans the spectrum of human emotions and offers just enough Kubrick to suggest that humanity's future is anything but guaranteed.

minutes of behind-the-scenes footage Spielberg talks about developing the vision of A.I. - Industrial Light and Magic group on the film's SFX Stan Winston explains how the robots were brought to life Featurette on the sound effects and orchestral score Storyboard sequences - portfolio Portrait gallery - Behind-the-scenes photos - Production design photos



SUM UP

A visually astounding film and a touching story. A little long, but in the comfort of the home and a pause button, this is un-missable home entertainment.

RATED SAYS
8/10

STARRING THE VOICE TALENTS OF: John Cleese, Eric Idle, Michael Palin, Graham Chapman, Terry Jones and Terry Gilliam

MONTY PYTHON AND THE HOLY GRAIL

EXTRAS:

"WE ARE THE KNIGHTS WHO SAY... NI!"

WRITTEN BY: THE ABOVE
DIRECTED BY: TERRY JONES, TERRY GILLIAM
DISTRIBUTED BY: COLUMBIA TRISTAR
RUNNING TIME: 86 MINS
RELEASE DATE: OUT NOW
RRP: £19.99
CERT: 15



If you've never heard of the Knights Who Say 'Ni!', or think Monty Python is as funny as live organ transplants, stop right here. Otherwise, welcome to the definitive version of the Python's funniest film.

Holy Grail is the slightly skewed version of King Arthur's quest for the mystical cup; with killer rabbits, abusive French knights and those knights who say 'Ni' a lot. Indiana Jones this ain't. Disc one holds the film and two sets of great commentaries from each half of the Python team, plus a funny rip-off of The Matrix DVD's 'Follow the White Rabbit', only this time it's a psycho bunny that dispenses accountancy info. Disc two is a treasure trove of goodies old and new; like a revisit to some of the Scottish locations, karaoke versions of the musical sequences, the original BBC Film '74 set report, pictures, posters, trailers and a superb animated Lego version of the Knight of the Round Table musical sequence.

SUM UP

A packed double disc set that's been made by fans, for fans. The new stuff from the Pythons makes it a collectable treat. Bootiful!

RATED SAYS
9/10

STARRING: Martin Sheen, Dennis Hopper, Robert Duvall, Lawrence Fishburne and Marlon 'who ate all the pies' Brandon

APOCALYPSE NOW REDUX

49 MINUTES OF RESTORED FOOTAGE MAKE FOR A VERY DIFFERENT APOCALYPSE...

DIRECTED BY: FRANCIS FORD COPPOLA
DISTRIBUTED BY: PARAMOUNT
RUNNING TIME: TBC
RELEASE DATE: APRIL 8TH
RRP: £19.99
CERT: 15

With 49 minutes of previously unseen footage, Apocalypse Now Redux is the re-edited Francis Coppola 1979 epic. The film was reconstructed by Coppola and editor Walter Murch to enrich themes and clarify the ending. Added scenes like the restored French plantation sequence add ghostly resonance to the war's absurdity. An encounter with Playboy Playmates seems OTT compared to the enhanced interplay between Willard and his ill-fated boat crew. But the highlight comes in the hellish Kurtz compound, where Willard's mission and the performances of Martin Sheen and Marlon Brando reach even greater heights of insanity, thus validating Redux as the rightful heir to Coppola's triumphantly rampant ambition. Unmissable re-cut of an incredible film.

EXTRAS:
- Original Theatrical Trailers
- 49 minutes of added footage - Commentary from Francis Ford Coppola and Walter Murch - Stills gallery



SUM UP

A superb re-cut of what must be one of the most absorbing, astonishing and mesmerising war movies ever made. Awesome.

RATED SAYS
10/10

STARRING: Gene Hackman, Roy Scheider and Fernando Rey

THE FRENCH CONNECTION 1 + 2 - BOX-SET

EXTRAS:

FRIEDKIN'S ORIGINAL ROUGH COP THRILLER AND SEQUEL, OUT AT LAST ON DVD...

DIRECTED BY: WILLIAM FRIEDKIN AND JOHN FRANKENHEIMER
DISTRIBUTED BY: FOX HOME ENTERTAINMENT
RUNNING TIME: 90-100 MINUTES EACH
RELEASE DATE: OUT NOW
RRP: £29.99
CERT: 18

Hackman and Roy Scheider - 3 disc set - BBC Documentary: Poughkeepsie Showfile - Making the connection: The untold stories - 7 deleted scenes - William Friedkin discusses the deleted scenes - Still gallery - Behind the scenes stills - Storyboard gallery - French Connection II: audio commentary by John Frankheimer and Gene Hackman



Loosely based upon an actual investigation that led to what was then the biggest heroin seizure in U.S. history, the film traces the efforts of Doyle and his partner (Roy Scheider) to close the pipeline pumping Middle Eastern smack into the States through the French port of Marseilles

(The actual French Connection cops, Eddie Egan and Sonny Grosso, make cameo appearances.) The impressive 1975 official sequel, French Connection II, directed by John Frankheimer, takes Popeye to the south of France in search for the notorious drug dealer boss. An impressive boxset if you're a fan and an ideal way to discover these classic cop-thrillers on DVD.

SUM UP

The original still has bite all these years later. Enjoy Popeye's rough cop movie on a smack-tastic DVD boxset. Classic top cop movies.

RATED SAYS
7/10

STARRING: Patrick Stewart, Jonathan Frakes and Brett Spiner

STAR TREK: THE NEXT GENERATION--COMPLETE SERIES 1 (7 DISCS)

EXTRAS:

LYCRA TOPS, POLITICAL CORRECTNESS, SEVEN DISCS AND 26 EPISODES

DIRECTED BY: VARIOUS
DISTRIBUTED BY: PARAMOUNT HOME VIDEO
RUNNING TIME: 19 HOURS APPROX.
RELEASE DATE: OUT NOW
RRP: £69.99
CERT: PG

The DVD season 1 boxset sets the scene for the show and for its spin-offs Deep Space Nine and Voyager, establishing the Federation in the 24th century. We meet some old friends like the Klingons in Heart of Glory and Romulans in The Neutral Zone and some new ones: the Ferengi in The Last Outpost and The Battle. This all comes in a unique presentation box that will have Star Trekkies foaming at the mouth. A great first series on a spankily gorgeous set of DVDs and a must have for any Star Trek fan.



(the genesis of Star Trek: The Next Generation and Gene Roddenberry's vision)



SUM UP

The first series gets released with enough extras to keep the average Trekkie busy for weeks. Unmissable DVD collectible.

RATED SAYS
9/10

MINI REVIEWS:

JACKIE CHAN **CERT: 15**
OUT NOW

A great documentary about the bone-breaking career of the tiny action star, with insights from Chan, some big Hollywood action stars and some incredibly painful & funny outtakes. Oo!

GAME OF DEATH 2 **CERT: 18**
OUT NOW

He might be dead but he's still earning! This, the sequel to the unfinished Bruce Lee classic starring a real Bruce Lee lookalike (Tony Leung), cool action and pretty much the same plot.

THUG IMMORTAL **CERT: 18**
OUT NOW

A collection of videos and music celebrating the short life of notorious, but certainly not A-list, gangsta rapper/actor Timbal Shkur, including his last ever (audio) interview. Sombre.

VIOLENT COP **CERT: 18**
OUT NOW

The name says it all. A bloody tale of a bad cop (Beal Takeshi) trying to take back his kidnapped sister from Japanese gangsters. Sheer violence and action all the way in this action epic.

DRIVEN **CERT: PG**
OUT NOW

A one-eyed hitman (Violent Cop's Beal Takeshi) joins the cast of Japan's coolest actors in this stylish gangster flick. Pretty much in the same vein as Violent Cop come to think of it... heh, heh.

BEAST COPS **CERT: 18**
OUT NOW

A critically-acclaimed Hong Kong action classic, and rightly so, as two cops take on the criminal underworld. Another bloody epic cop movie that has you cringing, cracking stuff from start to finish.

ONCE UPON A TIME IN CHINA 3

The third in the very well-worn series. Gorgeous-looking period drama but laced with ass-kicking action from the one and only Hollywood abductee Jet Li. Out to buy now - certificate

STILL OUT THERE...

STILL DOING BIG BUSINESS, THE DVDS YOU MUST GO AND BUY...

SWOONFISH **CERT: 15**
OUT NOW

Absolutely no-brainer that's a glossier glossy dog from Gloucester with a degree in Glossing. Travels a bit and violent and the stunning Halle Berry gets 'em out. Lovely.

RODDCOP TRILOGY **CERT: 18**
OUT NOW

Part good film. Part great extras, part dull sequels. An extra packed US cult version of the original that gets packed with the two frankly awful sequels. Roddence 3 being laughably bad.

threads tunes

SMELL OF THE MONTH!

RATED SAYS
9/10

TUNES CONT.

2/5 BLUE STREAK

Another hip hop orientated movie soundtrack which includes chart friendly hits from US hip hoppers such as Jay-Z, Tyrese, Keith Sweat and Da Brat, unfortunately the rest of the album doesn't live up to the aforementioned, filler at best.

4/5 SOUTH PARK - CHIEF AID RELEASE

Everyone's here from 80's rockers Meat Loaf to Metallica System of a Down. Featuring some of the most unusual and humorous collaborations in music history, Ozy Osbourne, DMX and ODB anyone? Priceless.

4/5 DESPERADO

All the music on this album is spanish/mexican guitar orientated which works well for the movie, includes classic tunes from Dire Straits and Carlos Santana. This is a proper soundtrack, not something that's been bundled together to sell a ton of copies.

1/5 ARMAGEDDON

Your favourite 80's bands performing cringe worthy rock. The whole album suffers from a stench of early 90's cheese. Aerosmith fans will get a kick out of this considering they make up most of the album. Dire. Dodge music, dodge film.

3/5 THE SOPRANOS

The soundtrack is diverse. Featuring some classic oldies from Sinatra, Dylan and Cream at one end and more contemporary, lively, upbeat tunes from electronica outfits Alabama 3 and RL Burnside at the other. In short a nice collection of assorted tunes.

5/5 JAY-Z: CHAPTER ONE - GREATEST HITS

Features all 7 of his first top 40 hits including Hard Knock Life and the infectious Can I Get A. Unmissable mix for fans of the 6 million record selling rap artist. A real must for fans.

Disagree? Well why not contact the Editor? ben.keen@thinkmedia.co.uk

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Vans have several new high-quality t-shirts coming up out this spring. The varied colours and designs accompany a nice quality material. Available at all good clothing retailers.

ETNIES LEDGE T-SHIRT

Once your skating with great trainers, the rest of your look has to be about 10 baggy t-shirts, this should be one of them. Soft, thick and well made. Available now.

RATED SAYS
COMFORT: 9
DESIGN: 10
OVERALL: 10



RATED SAYS
COMFORT: 7
DESIGN: 8
OVERALL: 8

M-CELLULAR PANTS

RATED SAYS
COMFORT: 6
DESIGN: 7
OVERALL: 7

BILLABONG DENIM SHORTS

Billabong's new Denim shorts are 100% cotton and soft to touch. Ideal for a walk down the beach or a stroll through town. Available at all good clothing retailers.

BILLABONG T-SHIRT - WRAP

RATED SAYS
COMFORT: 9
DESIGN: 9
OVERALL: 9

The 'Wrap' a long sleeved class Billabong sweat-shirt is one of many 2002 Billabong T-Shirt range launches. Available at all good clothing retailers.

ETNIES MIDI RAP TRAINERS

Designed, or so we've been told, with skating in mind. That said the grip is great and probably handy for executing tricks. Overall they're well made and very comfortable.

RATED SAYS
COMFORT: 7
DESIGN: 5
OVERALL: 6

ETNIES VALLEY 2 TRAINERS

The Valley 2 is designed by skater Mike Valley. It's been created to withstand a hammering on the ramps or on the street. But to be honest their so comftable they could be used for just about anything.

£59.95

ETNIES SIDEKICK TRAINERS

RATED SAYS
COMFORT: 8
DESIGN: 7
OVERALL: 8

Extremely well made trainers have a nice colour scheme, high quality design and great grip. Suitable for most circumstances and probably ideal for the rough and tumble of skating. Ready for anything.

Designed to keep you cool this summer, Etnies have designed smart pair of baggy pants. Ideal for the beach, skating or any kind of activity where you sweat. Available at all good clothing retailers.

IGENOUS TROUSERS

Another fine pair of trousers, though you feel they may be easily damaged if used. Smart colour scheme of blues and greys, army image, but nicely contrasted with pockets all over the shop. Available at all good clothing retailers.

RATED SAYS
COMFORT: 8
DESIGN: 7
OVERALL: 8



RATED SAYS
COMFORT: 9
DESIGN: 9
OVERALL: 9

BILLABONG HOODIE

Billabong's new hoodie is a pleasure to wear, look at and adore. Obviously quality design comes as

standard. Ideal for after-surf warming up or just casual use. Available at all good clothing retailers.

Watch it!

THIS MONTH'S MUST HAVE WATCHES...

Tissot, a Swiss company, make bloody expensive watches. Expensive for a reason, because they're very well made and will last you a life-time. We check out their newest range of £100+ watches...



ATOLLO II CHRONO

Wrist action: Nice sweat resistant strap, steel face and classic design. Not the most original of watches, but certainly a quality one.

PRICE £175



ATOLLO II CHRONO

Wrist action: A shiny steel strap makes you feel a little better about the two hundred notes you spent on your lady. This is Swiss design at it's best.

PRICE £195



TXL SEVEN

Wrist action: Nearing the three hundred price tag might have you sweating blood, but it's worth it for workmanship of this standard.

PRICE £275

BAGS OF TALENT

TRINITY



TRINITY

Sport Designs. Dark, and more square in design with super soft back pads and pockets galore. Plus nice inner lining with additional padded pockets for wallet, change etc... Sweet bag of cool.

JanSport, king of the backpacks has released the Trinity. It's a quality pack with an extra large front panel with an organiser for pens, keys and such - making it ideal for school, college etc. Trinity is available at Selfridges, Harrods, John Lewis.

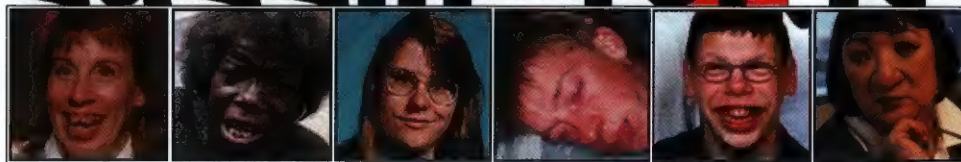
EASTPACK

Probably a touch cooler than the bog standard Jan

RATED SAYS
COMFORT: 9
DESIGN: 8
OVERALL: 9

£49.95

gaggin' for it



YOU MAY NOT LIKE THEIR FACES, BUT THE STAFF WERE FORCED TO SHOW THEIR LAUGHABLE MUGS IN ORDER TO DISTRACT YOU FROM THE AWFUL JOKES BENEATH. IF YOU HAVE A JOKE, AND NO ONE ELSE WILL LISTEN TO IT, SEND IT IN TO WIN! GAGGIN' FOR IT! RATED, THIN ICE MEDIA LTD. BEACON PLACE, STONE BUSINESS PK. STONE, STAFFS. ST15 0SS

EVERY JOKE PRINTED THIS ISSUE RECEIVED A COLLECTION OF YUMMY EASTER EGGS AND GOODIES COURTESY OF ELIZABETH SHAW, PLUS (IF OVER 18!) SOME COOL VODKA CHOCOS!

TOY BOY

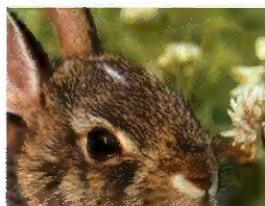
A guy meets a girl out at a nightclub and she invites him back to her place for the night, her parents are out of town and this is the perfect opportunity. They get back to her house and they go into her bedroom, and when the guy walks in the door he notices all these fluffy toys. There's hundreds of them, fluffy toys on top of the wardrobe, fluffy toys on the bookshelf and window sill, there's more on the floor, and of course fluffy toys all over the bed. Later, after they've had sex, he turns to her and asks, "So, how was I?" She says, "Well, you can take anything from the bottom shelf."

Marcus Hardtopp, Exeter.

DYING TO MEET

A couple made a deal that whoever died first would come back and inform the other of the after life. The woman's biggest fear was that there was no heaven. After a long life, the husband was the first to go, and true to his word, he made contact. "Mary... Mary..."

Awe-struck, Mary responds, "Is that you Fred?" "Yes, I have come back like we agreed." "Well, what is it like?" Fred excitedly tells his tale, "Well, when I get up in the morning I have sex, then I have breakfast, then I have sex again, then I bathe in the sun, then I have sex twice more, then I have lunch, then I have sex all afternoon and into the early evening, until bedtime. And, then, I start all over again the next day." So happy Mary says, "Oh Fred, you surely must be in heaven." Fred replies, "Hell no, Mary, I'm a rabbit in Kansas."



CHILLI MOUSE

A guy sits down in a Cafe and asks for the hot chilli. The waitress says, "The guy next to you got the last bowl." He looks over and sees that the guy's finished his meal, but the chilli bowl is still full. He says, "Are you going to eat that?" The other guy says, "No. Help yourself." He takes it and starts to eat it. When he gets about half way down, his fork hits something. He looks down sees a dead mouse in it, and he pukes! the chilli back into the bowl.

The other guy says, "That's about as far as I got, too."

Dominic Tester - via email.



BOO-POO!

There's a young couple in the cinema. The girl says, "I must have a piss, can I squeeze past you?" "Why don't you squat down on the floor and do it" says the boyfriend. "You'll have to disturb all these people, besides its dark, no one will see you." "OK" she says. She pulls her drawers down and squats on the floor. The bloke starts feeling horny at the thought of her down there, so he reaches down and makes a grab. He feels something long and hard and says, "Urgh! Have you changed your sex?" "No" she says, "I've changed my mind... I'm having a crap instead."

Rachel Buss - via email, London.



MOW HUNG

One Saturday afternoon, a man was sitting in his lawn chair drinking beer and watching his wife mow the lawn. A neighbour lady was so outraged at this, she came over and shouted at the man, "You should be hung!" To which he calmly replied, "I am. That's why she cuts the grass!"

Matthew Smith - Camden.

MINI GAGS

What do you call a French Sandalmaker?

Philippe Philoppe

What did the fish say when in swim into the wall?

Damn!

What do you call a chicken in a shell suit?

An egg.

A blind man walks into a shop with his dog. He picks the dog up and starts swinging it round his head. The shopkeeper says "can I help you sir?" The man replies, "no thanks, I'm just looking around!"

Rachel Buss, via email.

JOKE OF THE MONTH

STATUES OF LIBERTY

For decades two heroic statues, one male and one female, faced each other in a city park, until one day an angel came down from heaven and approached the statues. "You've been such exemplary statues," the angel announced to them, "That I'm going to give you a special gift. I'm going to bring you both to life for thirty minutes, in which you can do anything you want." And with a clap of his hands, the angel brought the statues to life. The two approached each other a bit shyly, but soon dashed for the bushes, from which shortly could be heard a good deal of giggling, laughter, and shaking of branches.

Fifteen minutes later, the two statues emerged from the bushes, wide grins on their faces. "You still have fifteen more minutes," said the angel, winking at them. Grinning widely the female statue turned to the male statue and said, "Great! Only this time you hold the pigeon down and I'll crap on its head!"

Matt Price, Holloway, London.



NEXT MONTH!



THE TOP 10 MOST WANTED MEN IN THE WORLD

THE MOST DEADLY MEN IN THE WORLD ROAMING FREE AND IN YOUR BACK GARDEN! WELL, POSSIBLY. WE EXPOSE THEM!

STUFF AND NONSENSE • DVD REVIEWS • STAR INTERVIEWS



PLUS DON'T MISS... SPIDERMAN! ADELE STEVENS! FBI AGENT TOP 10!



RATED

ON SALE MAY 18TH

LOVE IT-HATE IT-RATE IT



29-05-02